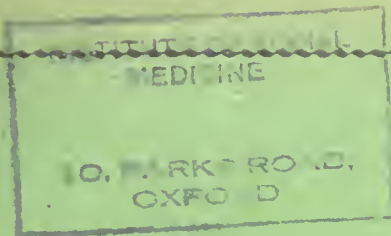


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Selkirk County Council

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# REPORT

OF THE

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE

Year 1947



INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL  
MEDICINE

10, PARKS ROAD,  
OXFORD

Selkirk County Council

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# REPORT

OF THE

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER.

FOR THE

Year 1947



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# LIST OF STAFF

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## *Sanitary Inspectors—*

ARCHD. S. MACVEY, A.R.San.I.....County Area  
ROBERT G. BRUCE.....Burgh of Galashiels  
THOMAS BEATTIE, F.I.A.A.....Burgh of Selkirk

## *School Dentist—*

ELEANOR M. F. SIMMIE, L.D.S.

*Attendant—*MISS E. HENDERSON.

## *Orthopaedic Surgeon—*

GEORGE A. POLLOCK, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S., M.S., F.A.C.S.,  
D.P.H.

## *Ophthalmic Surgeon—*

Dr A. SCHLOSS.

## *Surgeon for Ear, Nose and Throat Cases—*

CHARLES E. SCOTT, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.Ed.

## *Medical Officer of Sanderson I.D. Hospital, Galashiels—*

KENNETH McLAY, M.D., D.P.H.

## *Medical Officer of Combination Poorhouse, Galashiels—*

P. S. HENDERSON, M.B., Ch.B.

## *Medical Officer of Knowepark, Galashiels—*

W. A. WEATHERHEAD, M.B., Ch.B.

## *Nursing Staff—*

Burgh of Galashiels—MISSES M. F. BATHGATE, E. ROY, M. CARR  
and J. B. SCOTT.

Burgh of Selkirk—MISSES CHEYNE and MORRICE.

## *County Analyst—*

A. SCOTT DODD, B.Sc., F.I.C., F.C.S., F.R.S.E.

## *Administration—*

Joint Staff of County Education and Public Health Office.

## *County Medical Officer—*

G. M. ELLIOTT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



# SELKIRK COUNTY COUNCIL

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## REPORT OF THE COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR 1947

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TO THE CONVENER AND MEMBERS OF THE  
COUNTY COUNCIL OF SELKIRK.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report for the year 1947.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

**Population.**—The population estimated to the middle of the year was 22,140 an increase of 1,112 as compared with 1946.

**Births.**—The number of births registered, after correction for transfers, was 445, 226 males and 219 females, giving a birth rate of 20.1 per 1000. The number of births registered in 1947 was 22 more than the number registered in 1946. There were 19 illegitimate births, being equal to a rate of 4.3 per 100 total births as compared with 9.0 in 1946.

**Marriages.**—The marriage rate was 8.7 per 1000 of population.

**Deaths.**—After correction for transfers, the number of deaths in the county was 295, 150 males and 145 females, giving a corrected and adjusted death rate of 13.3 per 1000 of population. The rate in 1946 was 13.5.

The causes of death from different diseases were as follows:—

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Tuberculosis of Respiratory System     | 6  |
| Other forms of Tuberculosis            | 1  |
| Syphilis                               | 2  |
| Influenza                              | 1  |
| Other Infections of Parasitic Diseases | 1  |
| Cancer, Malignant Tumours              | 37 |

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Diabetes Mellitus .....                         | 4     |
| Other General Diseases .....                    | 11    |
| Meningitis, Diseases of spinal cord .....       | 2     |
| Cerebral Haemorrhage, Etc. ....                 | 49    |
| Other Diseases of Nervous System .....          | 1     |
| Heart Diseases .....                            | 98    |
| Other Circulatory Diseases .....                | 2     |
| Bronchitis .....                                | 13    |
| Pneumonia .....                                 | 7     |
| Other Respiratory Diseases ....                 | 5     |
| Gastric and Duodenal Ulcer .....                | 2     |
| Diarrhoea .....                                 | 2     |
| Appendicitis .....                              | 1     |
| Cirrhosis of Liver .....                        | 1     |
| Other Digestive Diseases .....                  | 3     |
| Nephritis, Acute or Chronic .....               | 6     |
| Other Diseases of Genito-Urinary System .....   | 3     |
| Other Puerperal Causes .....                    | 1     |
| Disease of Skin and Organs of Movement .....    | 1     |
| Congen. Debil., Prem. Birth, Malform, Etc. .... | 15    |
| Old Age .....                                   | 7     |
| Suicide .....                                   | 3     |
| Road Transport Accidents .....                  | 2     |
| Other Violence .....                            | 7     |
| Causes Ill-defined or Unknown .....             | 1     |
|   | <hr/> |
|   | 295   |

**Infantile Mortality.**—The infantile mortality rate for 1947 was 47 per 1000 total births as compared with 25 in 1946.

## I. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

### I. Births—

- (a) Total Number of births occurring in the area during the year ..... 528
- (b) Number of births in (a) classified according to nature of attendance at confinement—
  - (i) Maternity Services Scheme Cases
    - (a) with doctor ..... —
    - (b) without doctor ..... —
  - (ii) Other domiciliary cases
    - (a) with doctor ..... 25
    - (b) with midwife alone ..... —
    - (c) conducted by outdoor staff of institution ..... —
    - (d) without doctor or midwife ..... —
  - (iii) Institutional Cases (including those in private maternity and nursing homes) ..... 503



## 2. Home Visitation during year—

|                            | No. visited<br>for first time | Total visits |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Expectant Mothers .....    | —                             | —            |
| Infants .....              | 442                           | 1353         |
| Children (1-5 years) ..... | 30                            | 759          |

## 3. Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics—

|  | Ante-natal | Post-natal |
|--|------------|------------|
| (i) No. of Clinics at end of year provided by Local Authority .....    | —          | —          |
| (ii) No. of Clinics at end of year provided by Voluntary Bodies .....  | —          | —          |
| (iii) Total No. of women who attended at the clinics during year ..... | —          | —          |

## 4. Child Welfare Clinics—

|   |      |
|---|------|
| (a) No. of clinics at end of year provided by the Local Authority ..... | 100  |
| (b) No. of Clinics at end of year provided by Voluntary Bodies .....    | —    |
| (c) No. of Children attending during year—                              |      |
| (i) under 1 year of age .....   | 437  |
| (ii) 1 year of age and over .....                                       | 171  |
| (d) Total No. of attendances during year—                               |      |
| (i) under 1 year of age .....   | 3560 |
| (ii) 1 year of age and over .....                                       | 623  |

## 5. Special Treatment Centres—

No. of cases treated during year—

|  | Mothers | Children |
|--|---------|----------|
| (1) Teeth .....                        | —       | —        |
| (2) Eyes .....                         | —       | 148      |
| (3) Ear, Nose and Throat .....         | —       | 13       |
| (4) Other ailments .....               | —       | 1210     |
| (5) Ultra-violet light treatment ..... | 3       | 28       |
| (6) Orthopaedic .....                  | —       | 91       |

## 6. Mother and Baby Homes—

|  |   |
|--|---|
| (a) Provided by the Local Authority .....    | — |
| (b) Provided by Voluntary Associations ..... | — |

## 7. Residential Nurseries and Children's Homes—

|  |   |
|--|---|
| (a) Maintained by the Local Authority .....    | — |
| (b) Maintained by Voluntary Associations ..... | — |

## 8. Home and Domestic Helps—

|  | Home<br>Helps | Domestic<br>Helps |
|--|---------------|-------------------|
| (a) No. employed at end of year .....    | —             | —                 |
| (b) No. of cases taken during year ..... | —             | —                 |
| (c) Average period of assistance .....   | —             | —                 |

## 9. Care of Premature Infants and Illegitimate Children—

There is no special provision for the care of premature babies in the area, but in the case of illegitimate babies provision is made for their admission to the Day Nursery at the Scott Park, Galashiels.

# II. SCHOOL HEALTH.

Report for the year ended 31st July, 1947

## General Statistics—

Population of the area ..... 22,140 (at 30th June, 1947)

## Number of Schools—

|  |    |
|--|----|
| (a) Primary (under Education Authority) .....  | 19 |
| (b) Secondary (under Education Authority) .....  | 2  |
| (c) (i) Special Schools .....  | 0  |
| (ii) Special classes in ordinary schools .....   | 1  |
| (d) In receipt of grant from Education Authority<br>and under medical inspection ..... | 0  |

Number of children on the registers, *i.e.*, for whole area ..... 2454

Number of children in average attendance ..... 2273 (91%)

## Sanitary Conditions of Schools—

The following improvements were carried out at schools in this County during the period from September, 1946, to July, 1947:—

Electric lighting was installed in the whole of the Gymnasium at Galashiels Academy and throughout Selkirk High School.

Minor repairs were carried out at the following schools:—

Glendinning Terrace School, Galashiels.  
Ladhope School, Galashiels.  
St. Peter's School, Galashiels.  
Knowepark School, Selkirk.  
Philiphaugh School, Selkirk.  
Roman Catholic School, Selkirk.

Repairs were also carried out at five of the rural schools during this period.

## Organisation and Administration—

Arrangements are made through the Education Office for routine medical inspection at the various schools. The Headmaster of the school is informed of the age groups of children to be examined and he returns to the office the heights and weights of these children recorded at the beginning of the winter session. This information is transferred to the medical record cards of the children before examination. Any children who are found on examination to be requiring treatment (other than eye and dental treatment) are referred by letter to their own doctor. The doctor usually sends the child back to the School Clinic at Sime Place, Galashiels, or at Thornfield, Selkirk, for the necessary treatment.

The eye cases are given a form which is taken home for completion by the parent, and then returned to the Headmaster who transmits the completed forms to the Education Office, where arrangements for treatment are made.

In January Miss Simmie was appointed as full-time Dental Officer for the area. Inspections are carried out in the schools and arrangements are made for treatment at the dental clinic in Sime Place.

All children suffering from minor diseases are sent direct by the Headmasters to the School Clinics in Galashiels and Selkirk where treatment is carried out at regular sessions.

In Selkirkshire the nursing service is carried out by arrangement with the Queen's Jubilee Nurses. All these nurses are half-time employees of the County Council. This arrangement has been in force for many years and has worked very satisfactorily, as the nurses attending the various clinics are well acquainted with the home conditions of the children. All follow-up work is done by these nurses on the ordinary lines. They inspect the children regularly in school for cleanliness, etc., and they accompany the School Medical Officer during routine medical inspection.

The Medical Officer of Health is also School Medical Officer and co-ordination between the Public Health Service and the School Service is thus extremely close. The staff of the Public Health Office is combined with that of the Education Office.

The Cripples Aid Committee who are responsible in this area for the treatment of adult orthopaedic cases use the premises of the County Council for the treatment of these cases, and the staff of the two clinics are half-time employed by the Cripples Aid Committee and half-time by the Local Authority. This arrangement is very satisfactory as the children benefit by clinics well-equipped largely by the Cripples Aid Committee, and the physiotherapists' activities are not confined to any one type of case, as they treat babies, school children, and adults.

During routine medical inspection parents are encouraged to be present especially at the examination of entrants, and in the area (except the

rural area where parents are unable to get to the schools easily) the attendance of parents is quite satisfactory. Parents usually come to inspections if their child is suffering from a condition about which they want advice.

**TABLE I.**

Total number of children examined at Systematic Examinations:—

| <b>Ordinary Schools</b> | <b>Boys</b> | <b>Girls</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Entrants .....          | 145         | 120          | 265          |
| 1937 Age Group .....    | 113         | 139          | 252          |
| 1933 Age Group .....    | 108         | 112          | 220          |
| 1930 Age Group .....    | 11          | 16           | 27           |
|                         | <hr/>       | <hr/>        | <hr/>        |
|                         | 377         | 387          | 764          |

Number of individual children inspected at systematic examinations, who were notified to parents as requiring treatment (excluding uncleanness and dental caries):—

|                           | <b>Boys</b> | <b>Girls</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Entrants .....            | 16          | 4            | 20           |
| 1937 Age Group .....      | 13          | 8            | 21           |
| 1933 Age Group .....      | 13          | 11           | 24           |
| 1930 Age Group .....      | 3           | 1            | 4            |
|                           | <hr/>       | <hr/>        | <hr/>        |
|                           | 45          | 24           | 69           |
| (a) Special Cases .....   | ...         | ...          | 5            |
| *(b) Re-inspections ..... | ...         | ...          | —            |

\* The majority of special cases are seen at the Clinics and are included in the appropriate returns.

**Table II.**  
**SYSTEMATIC EXAMINATIONS.**

Return of number and percentage of individual children suffering from particular defects:—

| Nature of Defect                | Entrants |       | 1937 Group |       | 1933 Group |       | 1930 Group |       | Total |       | % of all children examined |
|---------------------------------|----------|-------|------------|-------|------------|-------|------------|-------|-------|-------|----------------------------|
|                                 | Boys     | Girls | Boys       | Girls | Boys       | Girls | Boys       | Girls | Boys  | Girls |                            |
| 1. Clothing unsatisfactory .... | —        | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —     | —     | 0.0%                       |
| 2. Footgear unsatisfactory .... | —        | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —     | —     | 0.0%                       |
| 3. Cleanliness—                 |          |       |            |       |            |       |            |       |       |       |                            |
| Head—Dirty ....                 | —        | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —     | —     |                            |
| Nits or Vermin ....             | —        | I     | —          | —     | 2          | —     | —          | —     | —     | 3     |                            |
| Body—Dirty ....                 | —        | I     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —     | I     |                            |
| Verminous ....                  | —        | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —     | —     | 0.5%                       |
| 4. Condition of Skin—           |          |       |            |       |            |       |            |       |       |       |                            |
| Head—Ringworm ....              | —        | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —     | —     |                            |
| Impetigo ....                   | —        | I     | I          | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | I     | I     |                            |
| Others ..                       | —        | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —     | —     |                            |
| Body—Ringworm ....              | —        | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —     | —     |                            |
| Impetigo ....                   | —        | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —     | —     |                            |
| Scabies ....                    | —        | I     | —          | —     | I          | —     | —          | —     | I     | I     |                            |
| Others ....                     | —        | —     | I          | —     | I          | —     | —          | —     | 2     | —     | 0.7%                       |
| 5. Nutrition—Slight Bad ....    | I        | —     | —          | I     | —          | I     | —          | —     | I     | 2     |                            |
|                                 | —        | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —          | —     | —     | —     | 0.4%                       |
| 6. Mouth and Teeth unhealthy .. | 19       | 13    | 17         | 14    | 6          | 2     | —          | —     | 42    | 29    | 9.2%                       |
|                                 |          |       |            |       |            |       |            |       | 71    |       |                            |

Table II.—Continued.

| Nature of Defect           | Entrants<br>Boys | Entrants<br>Girls | 1937 Group<br>Boys | 1937 Group<br>Girls | 1933 Group<br>Boys | 1933 Group<br>Girls | 1930 Group<br>Boys | 1930 Group<br>Girls | Boys | Girls | Total | % of all<br>children<br>examined |
|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------|-------|-------|----------------------------------|
| 7. Naso-Pharynx—           |                  |                   |                    |                     |                    |                     |                    |                     |      |       |       |                                  |
| Nose—Observation           | —                | —                 | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —    | —     | —     |                                  |
| Treatment                  | —                | —                 | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —    | —     | —     |                                  |
| Others                     | —                | —                 | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —    | —     | —     |                                  |
| Throat—Observation         | 4                | 1                 | 1                  | —                   | 2                  | 2                   | —                  | —                   | 7    | 3     | 3     |                                  |
| Tonsils—Treatment          | 7                | 2                 | 1                  | —                   | —                  | 1                   | —                  | —                   | 8    | 3     | 3     |                                  |
| Glands—Observation         | —                | —                 | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —    | —     | —     | 2.7%                             |
| Treatment                  | —                | —                 | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —    | —     | 21    |                                  |
| 8. External Eye Disease—   |                  |                   |                    |                     |                    |                     |                    |                     |      |       |       |                                  |
| Blepharitis                | —                | —                 | —                  | —                   | 1                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | 1    | —     | —     |                                  |
| Conjunctivitis             | 1                | —                 | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | 1    | —     | —     |                                  |
| Corn, Opac.                | —                | —                 | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —    | —     | —     |                                  |
| Strabismus                 | 4                | 1                 | —                  | —                   | 1                  | 1                   | —                  | —                   | 5    | 2     | —     |                                  |
| Others                     | —                | —                 | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —    | —     | —     |                                  |
| Visual Acuity—             |                  |                   |                    |                     |                    |                     |                    |                     |      |       |       |                                  |
| Without glasses            | 1                | —                 | 5                  | 6                   | —                  | 4                   | 1                  | 3                   | 7    | 13    | —     |                                  |
| With glasses               | —                | —                 | 1                  | 6                   | —                  | 2                   | —                  | —                   | 1    | 8     | —     |                                  |
| For refraction             | —                | —                 | —                  | 1                   | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —    | 1     | 39    | 5.1%                             |
| 9. Ears—Diseases—Otorrhoea | —                | —                 | —                  | 1                   | —                  | 1                   | —                  | —                   | —    | 2     | —     |                                  |
| Others                     | —                | —                 | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —    | —     | —     |                                  |
| Hearing—Grade I.           | —                | —                 | —                  | —                   | —                  | 1                   | —                  | —                   | —    | 1     | —     |                                  |
| Grade IIA.                 | 1                | —                 | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | 1    | —     | —     |                                  |
| Grade IIB.                 | —                | —                 | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —    | —     | —     |                                  |
| Grade III.                 | —                | —                 | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —                  | —                   | —    | —     | 4     | 0.5%                             |

Fair Vision, 26; Bad Vision, 4.

Table II.—Continued.

| Nature of Defect   | Entrants                   |                            | 1937 Group                 |                            | 1933 Group                 |                            | 1930 Group                 |                            | Total                      |                            | % of all children examined |                                |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
|  | Boys                       | Girls                      | Boys                       | Girls                      | Boys                       | Girls                      | Boys                       | Girls                      | Boys                       | Girls                      |                            |                                |
| 10. Speech—<br>Defective Articulation<br>Stammering  | —<br>I                     | —<br>—                     | —<br>—                     | —<br>—                     | —<br>—                     | I                          | —<br>—                     | —<br>—                     | —<br>I                     | —<br>2                     | 0.2 %                      |                                |
| 11. Mental and Nervous Conditions—<br>Backward (extrinsic)<br>Dull (intrinsic)<br>M.D. (educable)<br>M.D. (ineducable)<br>Nervous or unstable<br>Difficult behaviour | —<br>—<br>—<br>—<br>—<br>— | —<br>—<br>—<br>—<br>—<br>— | —<br>—<br>I<br>—<br>—<br>— | —<br>—<br>—<br>—<br>—<br>— | —<br>—<br>—<br>—<br>—<br>— | I<br>—<br>—<br>—<br>—<br>— | —<br>—<br>—<br>—<br>—<br>— | —<br>—<br>—<br>—<br>—<br>— | —<br>—<br>I<br>—<br>—<br>— | —<br>—<br>I<br>—<br>—<br>— | —<br>—<br>—<br>—<br>—<br>— | 3<br><br><br><br><br><br>0.4 % |
| 12. Circulatory System—<br>Organic (Congenital)<br>Heart (Acquired)<br>Functional Heart  | —<br>—<br>I                | —<br>—<br>—                | —<br>—<br>—                | —<br>2<br>—                | —<br>—<br>—                | —<br>3<br>—                | —<br>—<br>—                | —<br>—<br>—                | —<br>—<br>—                | —<br>3<br>I                | —<br>2<br>—                | 6<br><br><br>0.7 %             |
| 13. Lungs—Chronic Bronchitis<br>Tubercle (Suspected)<br>Other Diseases   | —<br>—<br>I                | I<br>—<br>—                | —<br>—<br>2                | —<br>—<br>—                | —<br>—<br>—                | I<br>—<br>—                | —<br>—<br>—                | —<br>—<br>—                | —<br>—<br>—                | —<br>—<br>3                | 2<br>—<br>5                | 5<br><br><br>0.6 %             |
| 14. Deformities—Congenital<br>Infant. Par.<br>Acquired—Rickets (prob.)<br>Others   | —<br>—<br>I<br>I           | —<br>—<br>—<br>—           | —<br>—<br>—<br>I           | —<br>—<br>—<br>—           | —<br>—<br>—<br>—           | —<br>—<br>—<br>—           | —<br>—<br>—<br>—           | —<br>—<br>—<br>—           | —<br>—<br>—<br>—           | —<br>—<br>I<br>2           | —<br>—<br>—<br>3           | 3<br><br><br>0.4 %             |
| 15. Infectious Diseases  | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —<br>0.0 %                     |
| 16. Other Diseases or Defects  | 3                          | —                          | —                          | 3                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | —                          | 3                          | 3                          | 6<br>0.7 %                     |

Note.—A total of 764 children were examined, each child being examined for all the above groups. The figures given in the last column are percentages of 764.



**Table III.**  
**SYSTEMATIC MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.**

| Classification  | Entrants |       | 1937 |       | 1933 |       | 1930 |       | Total |       |
|---|----------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|
|   | *(a)     | *(b)  | *(a) | *(b)  | *(a) | *(b)  | *(a) | *(b)  | *(a)  | *(b)  |
| I. Children free from defects   | 211      | 79.6  | 196  | 77.8  | 184  | 83.7  | 23   | 85.1  | 614   | 80.4  |
| II. Children (otherwise free from defects) who suffer from—   |          |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |       |       |
| (a) Defective vision not worse than 6/12 in the better eye with or without glasses; or  | 1        | 0.3   | 16   | 6.3   | 11   | 5.0   | 4    | 14.9  | 32    | 4.2   |
| (b) Conditions of the mouth and teeth requiring treatment   | 29       | 11.0  | 30   | 12.0  | 8    | 3.6   | 0    | 0.0   | 67    | 8.8   |
| (c) Both (a) and (b)  | 0        | 0.0   | 1    | 0.4   | 0    | 0.0   | 0    | 0.0   | 1     | 0.1   |
| Total   | 30       | 11.3  | 47   | 18.7  | 19   | 8.6   | 4    | 14.9  | 100   | 13.1  |
| III. Children suffering from ailments (other than those mentioned in II.) from which complete recovery is anticipated within a few weeks            | 22       | 8.3   | 6    | 2.4   | 7    | 3.1   | 0    | 0.0   | 35    | 4.6   |
| IV. Children suffering from (or suspected to be suffering from) defect less remediable than defects specified in II. or III., distinguishing cases— |          |       |      |       |      |       |      |       |       |       |
| (a) Where complete cure or restoration of function (in the case of eye defect, full correction) is considered possible                              | 2        | 0.8   | 0    | 0.0   | 4    | 1.9   | 0    | 0.0   | 6     | 0.8   |
| (b) Where improvement only is considered possible, e.g., without complete restoration of function   | 0        | 0.0   | 3    | 1.1   | 6    | 2.7   | 0    | 0.0   | 9     | 1.1   |
| Total   | 2        | 0.8   | 3    | 1.1   | 10   | 4.6   | 0    | 0.0   | 15    | 1.9   |
| Total Number of Children Examined   | 265      | 100.0 | 252  | 100.0 | 220  | 100.0 | 27   | 100.0 | 764   | 100.0 |

\*(a) Number of Children.      \*(b) Percentage of the children examined in this group.



TABLE IV.

## RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE IN THE AREA.

| Disability  | (L) | (M) | (N) | Total |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 1. Blind .....  | —   | —   | —   | —     |
| 2. Partially sighted:—  |     |     |     |       |
| (a) Refractive errors in which the curriculum of an ordinary school would adversely affect the eye condition .....  | —   | —   | —   | —     |
| (b) Other conditions of the eye, e.g., cataract, ulceration, etc., which render the child unable to read ordinary school books or to see well enough to be taught in an ordinary school ..... | —   | —   | —   | —     |
| 3. Deaf:—   |     |     |     |       |
| Grade I. ....   | I   | —   | —   | I     |
| Grade II.a ....   | I   | —   | —   | I     |
| Grade II.b ....   | —   | —   | —   | —     |
| Grade III. ....   | —   | —   | —   | —     |
| 4. Defective Speech :—  |     |     |     |       |
| (a) Defects of articulation requiring special educational measures .....  | 2   | —   | —   | 2     |
| (b) Stammering requiring special educational measures .....   | —   | —   | —   | —     |
| 5. Mentally Defective :—  |     |     |     |       |
| (Children between 5 and 16 years)—  |     |     |     |       |
| (a) Educable (I.Q. approx. 50-70) .....   | —   | 9   | —   | 9     |
| (b) Ineducable (I.Q. generally less than 50) .....  | —   | —   | —   | —     |
| 6. Epilepsy :—  |     |     |     |       |
| (a) Mild and occasional .....   | —   | —   | —   | —     |
| (b) Severe (suitable for care in a residential school) .....  | —   | —   | —   | —     |
| 7. Physically defective (Children between 5 and 16 years):—   |     |     |     |       |
| (a) Non-pulmonary tuberculosis (excluding cervical glands) .....  | —   | —   | —   | —     |
| (b) General orthopaedic conditions .....  | 10  | —   | —   | —     |
| (c) Organic heart disease .....   | —   | —   | —   | —     |
| (d) Other causes of ill-health .....  | —   | —   | —   | —     |

(L) = At Ordinary schools.

(M) = At special schools or classes.

(N) = At no school or institution.

## DENTAL CLINIC.

The following table shows the work done at the School Clinic from September, 1946, to July, 1947:—

### Number of Children Inspected:—

|                                    |       |      |
|------------------------------------|-------|------|
| Routine Age Group                  | 1153  |      |
| Specials                           | 357   |      |
|                                    | <hr/> | 1510 |
| Numbers found to require treatment |       | 890  |
| Numbers actually treated           |       | 801  |
| Attendances made for treatment     |       | 1473 |
| Half days devoted to treatment     | 194   |      |
| Half days devoted to inspection    | 28    |      |
|                                    | <hr/> | 222  |
| Fillings—Permanent Teeth           | 584   |      |
| Fillings—Temporary Teeth           | 7     |      |
|                                    | <hr/> | 591  |
| Extractions Permanent Teeth        | 314   |      |
| Extractions Temporary Teeth        | 698   |      |
|                                    | <hr/> | 1012 |
| Administration General Anaesthesia |       | 520  |
| Other operations—Permanent Teeth   | 578   |      |
| Other operations—Temporary Teeth   | 63    |      |
|                                    | <hr/> | 641  |

Under the heading, “found to require treatment,” the number 890 applied only to routine inspections carried out between January and July, 1947. Before this date detailed records were not kept.

The number accepting treatment between January and July was:—

|         |       |
|---------|-------|
| Routine | 577   |
| Special | 155   |
|         | <hr/> |
| Total   | 732   |

The children (199) treated between October and December were all applications for treatment and were considered special acceptances.

## ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC

During the period under review Mr Pollock visited the School Clinic, Sime Place, Galashiels, 10 times, and the School Clinic, Thornfield, Selkirk, 10 times.

On each visit to Galashiels Mr Pollock examines approximately 25 children of whom 18 are school children, and at Selkirk his average clinic is 20 children, approximately 14 of whom are school children.

## EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CLINIC

The following table shows the number of cases operated on and examined by Dr Scott in Galashiels and Selkirk during the session 1946-47 :—

| Galashiels and Selkirk | No. of children<br>treated | No. of children<br>examined |
|------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 5 years of age         | 10                         | —                           |
| 6 years of age         | 4                          | —                           |
| 7 years of age         | 7                          | 1                           |
| 8 years of age         | 7                          | —                           |
| 9 years of age         | 4                          | —                           |
| 10 years of age        | 5                          | —                           |
| 11 years of age        | —                          | —                           |
| 12 years of age        | 2                          | —                           |
| 13 years of age        | 1                          | —                           |
| 14 years of age        | 1                          | —                           |
| 15 years of age        | —                          | —                           |

## EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN

33 boys and 4 girls were examined with a view to being passed as fit to undertake certain forms of part-time employment under the Council's Byelaws. In every case a medical certificate was granted.

## EYE CLINIC

The following figures relate to treatment carried out at the Eye Clinic from September, 1946, to July, 1947:—

|  | Galashiels | Selkirk |
|--|------------|---------|
| No. of Clinics held                            | 19         | 14      |
| No. of cases treated                           | 154        | 82      |
| No. of cases for which glasses were prescribed | 56         | 54      |

## MINOR DISEASES CLINIC

The following table shows the number of cases treated at the Clinics in Galashiels and Selkirk during the period under review :—

|   | Galashiels | Selkirk |
|---|------------|---------|
| Number of Minor' Diseases Clinics held            | 90         | 128     |
| Number of treatments given for Minor Diseases     | 1040       | 717     |
| Number of treatments given to scabies cases       | 16         | 59      |
| Number of individual children treated for scabies | 4          | 16      |
| Number of U.V.R. Clinics held                     | 111        | 113     |
| Number of U.V.R. treatments given                 | 440        | 869     |

## A. Minor Ailments—

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| (1) Cuts, etc.                   | 594 |
| (2) Diseases of the ear          | 41  |
| (3) Diseases of the eye          | 37  |
| (4) Diseases of the skin :—      |     |
| Ringworm (scalp)—X-ray treatment | —   |
| Other treatment                  | —   |
| Ringworm (body)                  | —   |
| Scabies                          | 15  |
| Impetigo                         | 67  |
| Other Diseases                   | 77  |

## III. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

**Prevalence of Infectious Disease.**—The following table shows the number of cases of infectious disease, notified; and the number of cases removed to hospital during 1947. Our total figure of 46 cases of infectious diseases notified during the year is a considerable reduction from the previous year's figure of 67.

|                                      | Notified | Removed |
|--------------------------------------|----------|---------|
| Erysipelas                           | 9        | —       |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum                | 2        | 2       |
| Acute Influenzal Pneumonia           | 7        | 4       |
| Acute Primary Pneumonia              | 6        | 5       |
| Pneumonia (not otherwise notifiable) | 4        | 4       |
| Acute Poliomyelitis                  | 2        | 2       |
| Puerperal Fever                      | 1        | —       |
| Scarlet Fever                        | 15       | 15      |
|                                      | 46       | 32      |

There were only two cases of Poliomyelitis notified during the year. Both of these cases were visitors to the County. One of the cases was an adult who had only been in the County two days before removal to hospital where she died. The other was a baby to whom treatment was given in the orthopaedic hospital and she made a complete recovery.

**Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign.**—Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics are held regularly in Galashiels and Selkirk. The Galashiels Clinics are usually held in the Child Welfare Centre at Sime Place, but if most of the children to be inoculated at any particular time are in attendance at the Day Nursery, Scott Park, arrangements are made to hold the Clinic there for convenience. All Clinics in Selkirk take place at Thornfield Clinic. Practically all children in Galashiels and Selkirk have been immunised, and the great majority of children now being done are infants. The local doctors in turn attend the Clinics.

|   | School | Pre-School |
|---|--------|------------|
| Number of children immunised during 1947            | 15     | 137        |
| Total number of children immunised at end of 1947   | 510    | 3451       |
| Number of confirmed cases of Diphtheria during 1947 | —      | —          |
| Number of deaths from Diphtheria during 1947        | —      | —          |

#### IV. TUBERCULOSIS.

Table 1.

|  | 1947 |    |       |
|--|------|----|-------|
|  | M.   | F. | Total |
| Number of cases notified during the year                         | 8    | 11 | 19    |
| Number of cases died during the year                             | 1    | 1  | 2     |
| Number of cases known to be suffering from T.B. at 31st December | 53   | 36 | 89    |

Table 2.

Classification and Age Incidence of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Cases notified.

| Age Group      | 1947      |               |       |
|----------------|-----------|---------------|-------|
|                | Pulmonary | Non-Pulmonary | Total |
| Under 5        | —         | —             | —     |
| 5 and under 10 | —         | 1             | 1     |
| 10 „ „ 15      | —         | —             | —     |
| 15 „ „ 25      | 7         | 3             | 10    |
| 25 „ „ 35      | 4         | 2             | 6     |
| 35 „ „ 45      | 1         | —             | 1     |
| 45 „ „ 65      | —         | —             | —     |
| 65 and over    | 1         | —             | 1     |
| Total          | 13        | 6             | 19    |

**Table 3.**  
**Distribution of Cases Notified during 1947.**

| Year | Galashiels |                | Selkirk    |                | County     |                | Total |
|------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|-------|
|      | Pul-monary | Non-Pul-monary | Pul-monary | Non-Pul-monary | Pul-monary | Non-Pul-monary |       |
| 1947 | 10         | 2              | 3          | 1              | —          | 3              | 19    |

**Table 4.**  
**Mortality Rates for 1947.**

| Pulmonary |   |       |                     | Non-Pulmonary |   |       |                     | All Causes |   |       |                     |
|-----------|---|-------|---------------------|---------------|---|-------|---------------------|------------|---|-------|---------------------|
| M         | F | Total | Death Rate per 1000 | M             | F | Total | Death Rate per 1000 | M          | F | Total | Death Rate per 1000 |
| 3         | 3 | 6     | 0.27                | 1             | — | 1     | 0.5                 | 4          | 3 | 7     | 0.32                |

**Table 5.**  
**Institutional Treatment—1947.**

|               |          |   | In In-stitutions<br>at<br>1st Jan. | Admitted<br>during<br>year | Dis-<br>charged<br>during<br>year | Died<br>in<br>Institutions | In In-stitutions<br>at<br>31st Dec. |
|---------------|----------|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Pulmonary     | Adults   | M | 3                                  | 5                          | 3                                 | 1                          | 3                                   |
|               |          | F | 3                                  | 4                          | 1                                 | 1                          | 6                                   |
|               | Children | M | —                                  | —                          | —                                 | —                          | —                                   |
|               |          | F | —                                  | —                          | —                                 | —                          | —                                   |
| Non-Pulmonary | Adults   | M | —                                  | —                          | —                                 | —                          | —                                   |
|               |          | F | 2                                  | 1                          | —                                 | —                          | 3                                   |
|               | Children | M | 1                                  | —                          | —                                 | —                          | 1                                   |
|               |          | F | 1                                  | —                          | —                                 | —                          | 1                                   |
| Total         |          |   | 10                                 | 10                         | 4                                 | 2                          | 14                                  |



There has been a slight increase in the number of cases of tuberculosis notified during the year. The difficulty of providing sanatorium treatment for tuberculous cases has been the main problem. The waiting list for beds has steadily increased and many of these cases are in urgent need of hospitalisation.

## V. VENEREAL DISEASES.

|   | 1947      |
|---|-----------|
| <b>No. of new cases</b>                           | <b>14</b> |
| Gonorrhoea  | 7         |
| Syphilis  | 4         |
| No Venereal Condition                             | —         |
| <b>Domicile of above cases</b>                    |           |
| Galashiels  | 7         |
| Selkirk   | 7         |
| County  | —         |
| <b>No. of Previous Cases continuing treatment</b> | <b>8</b>  |

## VI. DIABETES.

The numbers of Diabetics supplied with insulin during the year 1947 were four in Galashiels and three in Selkirk—a total of seven, compared with eight in 1946.

## VII. CANCER.

Arrangements are being made under the Cancer Act for a Clinic to be held at Galashiels Hospital. This Clinic will meet once a fortnight, and specialists from the Infirmary will be in attendance. The local practitioners will send cases to the Clinic and the Local Authority will be responsible for part of the cost of treatment, if treatment is necessary. The treatment will be carried out in the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. The Clinic's function will be diagnosis, and follow-up care of treated cases.

## VIII. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

No after-care Committee is operating at present, but the Social Welfare Officer takes an interest in most mental health cases coming to his knowledge. Institutional treatment is provided in Dingleton Hospital, Melrose, and it is worth noting that the number of voluntary patients is rising and there is not the same difficulty in persuading patients to have hospital treatment. The Local Authority encourages treatment in Jordanburn Nerve Hospital, where this is recommended, and has made itself responsible for the charges in most cases. During the year a number of cases have attended Dingleton Hospital for treatment (shock therapy, etc.), as out-patients and this has been extremely successful. It is hoped to develop this out-patient treatment, and patients who have been discharged from the Mental Hospital are encouraged by the Medical Superintendent to return for treatment. Boarded-out patients are suitably supervised.

## IX. SICK POOR.

**Medical care of patients in their own homes.**—The Council operates a capitation system under which the patients can choose their own doctor. All the doctors practising in the County take part in the scheme. All necessary medicine and medical appliances are supplied as recommended by the practitioners concerned.

**Home Nursing.**—The Council has no full-time nurses but has an arrangement with the Queen's Institute of District Nurses, both in Galashiels and Selkirk, to attend where and when necessary. In certain instances these nurses have attended cases outside the Burghs.

**Home Helps.**—No official scheme is yet in operation, but preliminary steps are being taken with a view to establishing such a scheme if it is possible to obtain the necessary assistants. For many years the Social Welfare Department has been able to arrange for help in certain homes, but this has been becoming increasingly difficult owing to the shortage of volunteers for this work.

## X. HOSPITALS.

**Sanderson Infectious Diseases Hospital, Galashiels.**—This is a 40-bedded hospital, and the staff consists of a Matron, two Sisters, and four student nurses, with additional domestic staff and two handymen—one resident. The M.O. of the Hospital is Dr McLay. Under the Pooling Scheme of the Border Counties, cases from outside areas are admitted to the Hospital.

**Knowepark Institution, Galashiels (Hospital for chronic sick).**—This home has been filled to capacity (30 beds) during the whole year and there is always a waiting list for admission. The majority of admissions are old people. Cases are admitted on a medical priority basis.

**Eildon View (Combination Poor Law Institution).**—Beds are available in this Institution, but owing to the staff position, no domestics and no nurses, facilities cannot be utilised, although various cases who do require care and nursing have been dealt with by the Matron and Governor. Cases requiring urgent medical or surgical treatment are sent to the Galashiels Hospital where specialists' services are available.

**Specialist Treatment.**—The fares of patients requiring treatment and advice at various hospitals in Edinburgh are paid by the Local Authority, provided such treatment is necessary.



## XI. AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Local Authority ambulance is attached to the Sanderson I.D. Hospital, Galashiels, and in addition to collecting cases of infectious disease from all over the County, it is used for conveying patients from Galashiels and district to East Fortune Sanatorium, Bangour. We also have the use, when necessary, of the Galashiels Hospital Ambulance and the Viewfield Nursing Home Ambulance in Selkirk.

## XII. HEALTH EDUCATION.

By arrangement with the Local Authority, the Scottish Council for Health Education, Edinburgh, hold a series of meetings in this County for one week during the summer. The meetings are held in Galashiels, Selkirk and the county area, and take the form of a combined film show and talk by the Council's Medical Lecturer. The school meetings have always been very successful, as have the meetings held in factories during the lunch hour break. The public meetings unfortunately have been poorly attended, caused partly by the fact that they have been held in the summer.

## XIII. ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

### GALASHIELS—Sime Place Clinic—Session 1946-47.

| Conditions           | No. | Treatments              | No.         |
|----------------------|-----|-------------------------|-------------|
| Osteo-Arthritis      | 15  | Massage                 | 817         |
| Rheumatoid Arthritis | 12  | Infra Red               | } ..... 762 |
| Fibrositis           | 12  | Radiant Heat            |             |
| Acute Muscular Pain  | 9   | Galvanism               | 65          |
| Sciatica             | 10  | Faradism                | 218         |
| Lumbago              | 11  | Paraffin Wax            | 528         |
| Synovitis            | 3   | Ultra-Violet Light      | 176         |
| Pleural Adhesions    | 1   | Short Wave Diathermy    | 788         |
| Bursitis             | 1   | Exercises               | 352         |
| Injury to Muscle     | 5   |                         |             |
| Injury to Joint      | 12  |                         |             |
| Fracture             | 10  |                         |             |
| Neuritis             | 16  |                         |             |
| Facial Paralysis     | 2   |                         |             |
| Old Poliomyelitis    | 2   | Total No. of Treatments | 2254        |
| Metatarsalgia        | 3   | Total No. of Patients   | 145         |
| Pes Planus           | 5   |                         |             |
| Drop Foot            | 2   |                         |             |
| Hallux Valgus        | 2   |                         |             |
| Chilblains           | 3   |                         |             |
| General Debility     | 5   |                         |             |
| Skin Disease         | 2   |                         |             |
| G. S. Wound          | 2   |                         |             |

## SELKIRK—Thornfield Clinic—January to December, 1947.

| Conditions                   | No. | Treatments               | No.  |
|------------------------------|-----|--------------------------|------|
| Fibrositis                   | 75  | Massage                  | 1507 |
| Rheumatoid Arthritis         | 15  | Infra Red                | 368  |
| Osteo-Arthritis              | 10  | Short Wave Diathermy     | 850  |
| Synovitis Knees              | 6   | Galvanism and Sinusoid   |      |
| Painful Feet                 | 9   |                          | 116  |
| Cavus Feet                   | 2   | Faradism                 | 98   |
| Pes Planus                   | 2   | Ultra Violet Light       | 173  |
| Hallux Valgus                | 2   | Paraffin Wax             | 325  |
| Injuries to Upper Extremity  | 8   | Remedial Exercises       | 444  |
| Injuries to Lower Extremity  | 7   |                          |      |
| Poor Circulation, chilblains | 2   |                          |      |
| General Debility             | 4   | Total No. of Treatments  | 3881 |
| Sinusitis                    | 1   | Total No. of Attendances | 2448 |
| Postural Exercises           | 2   | Total No. of Patients    | 153  |
| Facial Paralysis             | 1   |                          |      |
| Anterior Poliomyelitis       | 1   |                          |      |
| Peripheral Neuritis          | 3   |                          |      |
| Syngomyelia                  | 1   |                          |      |
| Lateral Sclerosis            | 1   |                          |      |
| Tennis Elbow                 | 1   |                          |      |

The Orthopaedic Surgeon visits the Clinic monthly.

## XIV. FOOD SUPPLY.

1. **Milk**.—The Milk Officer is shared by Roxburghshire and Selkirkshire and dairies are sampled regularly and investigations are made if unsatisfactory samples are received. There has been no outbreak of infectious disease traceable to milk.

2. **Meat and Other Foods**.—Samples are taken regularly by the Sampling Officer. Steps are taken immediately if any samples are below standard.

3. **Food Poisoning**.—No outbreak of food poisoning occurred in the County during the year.

4. **Nutrition**.—The distribution of baby foods is carried out from the Child Welfare Centres and at the local Food Offices. All posters and pamphlets issued by the Ministry of Food are displayed in the Child Welfare Centres, and lectures by the Scottish Council for Health Education are held regularly in the County.

## XV. DAY NURSERY, SCOTT PARK, GALASHIELS.

The Day Nursery was fully occupied during the year. The Nursery is equipped for ten children under two years and thirty children from two to five years. There is still a large number of children on the waiting list.

**XVI. BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS CARRIED OUT  
FOR THE COUNTY OF SELKIRK BY THE BACTERIOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT, UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, FROM  
JANUARY TO DECEMBER, 1947.**

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Swabs from throat, nose and ear examined for <i>B. diphtheriae</i> —<br>Positive 2  | 48  |
| Swab from throat, nose and ear for haemolytic streptococci<br>and other pathogenic organisms — Positive, Haemolytic<br>Streptococci 2           | 11  |
| Urine, faeces, pus and stomach washings examined for <i>B. tuber-</i><br><i>culosis</i> by the microscopic method                               | 1   |
| Cultivation test for <i>B. tuberculosis</i> * (sputum and other specimens)  | 1   |
| Animal inoculation for <i>B. tuberculosis</i> (sputum and other speci-<br>mens) Positive 1  | 1   |
| Cerebrospinal fluid for general bacteriological examination<br>(including examination for <i>B. tuberculosis</i> by the microscopic<br>method†) | 1   |
| Blood culture (general)   | 1   |
| Blood for Widal reaction (including agglutination test for <i>B.</i><br><i>abortus</i> )  | 2   |
| Blood-clot cultures from specimens submitted for Widal reaction   | 1   |
| Faeces and urine for organisms of enteric and dysentery groups—<br>Positive, <i>B. paratyphosus</i> B7†   | 17  |
| Pus for general bacteriological examination, including exudate<br>from wounds   | 1   |
| Pus for general bacteriological examination   | 4   |
| Blood for Wassermann reaction   | 8   |
| Syphilis Flocculation test—method of Bacteriology Department,<br>Edinburgh University   | 8   |
| Kahn “verification test” for syphilis   | 1   |
| Cerebrospinal fluid for cytological examination, protein, sugar<br>and chlorides  | 2   |
| Complement fixation test for gonococcal infection   | 1   |
| Swabs examined for thrush fungus  | 3   |
| Water specimens for complete bacteriological examinations   | 25  |
| Water specimens for presumptive <i>B. coli</i> test   | 25  |
| Total water specimens examined—25   |     |
| Milk specimens for bacterial count  | 124 |
| Milk specimens for <i>B. coli</i> test  | 140 |
| Milk specimens for methylene blue reduction test  | 42  |
| Milk specimens for phosphatase test   | 19  |
| Total milk specimens examined—174   |     |
| Autogenous vaccines prepared  | 1   |
| Miscellaneous examinations  | 1   |
| Total   | 489 |

‡after “concentration” of specimen. \*negative by microscopic method.

† this number includes repeat tests.

## **XVII. REPORTS BY SANITARY INSPECTORS, 1947.**

### **A. COUNTY AREA.**

#### **A. Cleansing and Scavenging.**

The collection and disposal of refuse in the Ettrickhaugh Special Scavenging District was carried out during the year by the County refuse cart, and the refuse was disposed of in the County Destructor, at the County Council yard. This was carried out in a satisfactory manner.

The greater portion of this area has now been taken over by the Burgh of Selkirk, and will be dealt with by the Town Council in future.

There are no offensive trades within the district.

#### **Water Supplies.**

The supply to the Philiphaugh Special Water District still proves satisfactory and sufficient. It is interesting to note that, even during the dry season, there was no shortage of water from this source.

New water supplies are in course of construction at Yarrowford, Clovenfords and Ashkirk districts, and these should be a vast improvement to the areas concerned.

#### **Sanitary Condition of Schools, Etc.**

The sanitary condition of Schools, Workshops, Factories and Burial Grounds has been inspected regularly, and these have all been maintained in good condition.

There are no common lodging houses in the County.

#### **B. Food Supply.**

##### **(1) Milk.**

Improvements have been carried out in several dairies, and all these improvements have been of a very high standard.

There are 32 producers of milk in the County.

Eleven produce T.T. Milk.

Seven produce Standard Milk.

Fourteen are Ordinary Registered Producers.

Only one producer of T.T. Milk and six Ordinary Milk Producers Retail their milk direct to the public.

The Scottish Co-operative Society still produce good results from their Pasteurisation Plant.

- (2) The Dairy By-Laws regarding Structural Alterations have been complied with, and there is considerable improvement in Byres, Milk Houses and Dairy Kitchens. Several improvements are in course of construction meantime.

(3) All the conditions detailed in the Milk and Dairies, Scotland, Order, 1934, Articles 4-14, are being complied with.

|   |    |
|---|----|
| (4) (a) Number of retail purveyors of milk        | 12 |
| (b) Number of producers who do not sell by retail | 25 |
| (c) Average number of cows in registered dairies  | 20 |
| (d) Dairies exempt from registration              | 6  |
| (e) Number of cows on exempted premises           | 8  |

Samples of milk were taken regularly, and there were no prosecutions.

(6) **Miscellaneous.**—One hundred and nine Samples of Food were taken during the year, and there were no convictions. Premises and vans supplying foods were regularly inspected, and these all proved to be satisfactory.

**Nuisances.**—No complaints were received during the year.

**Infectious Diseases.**—Disinfection of houses is carried out by the driver of the ambulance immediately the case is removed, and this has been very satisfactory.

**Sewage Works.**—The two village sewage works, at Clovenfords and Bridge Street, are still proving satisfactory. These are regularly cleaned out by the County staff, and the effluent entering the streams has been very good.

#### **Dry Closets.**

The number of dry closets serving two tenants is 4  
" " " " three tenants is 1

It is hoped to have these conditions improved in the very near future.

**Tents and Vans.**—One hundred and thirty-two inspections were made of tents and vans in the County, and on the whole conditions were satisfactory.

**Rat Destruction.**—With reference to the destruction of rats in the County, arrangements were made with the Department of Agriculture for a complete survey of the district.

Out of a total of 217 subjects surveyed only 23 required treatment. These included 19 farms, three refuse dumps and one dwelling house. A total of 2,479 rats were destroyed. Of these, 1749 were actually trapped, and the estimated number poisoned and gassed was 730.

The rainfall in the County for 1947 was 27·96 inches, and rain fell on 130 days.



## B. BURGH OF GALASHIELS.

### WATER SUPPLY.

The Burgh water supply is obtained from Knowsdean Reservoir. Though it is unfiltered it is of good quality.

A twenty-four hour supply was available throughout the year, but a few properties were cut off through the freezing of a short section of main and one or two service pipes during the exceptionally severe weather earlier in the year.

The average daily consumption was 705,000 gallons, 5,000 gallons per day below that of 1946.

Samples were taken at regular intervals and particulars of typical ones are as follows:—

#### **Chemical Sample from main tap at “Tigh-na-Cloich,” Oatlands Terrace, 31st July, 1947.**

Laboratory of City Analyst,  
Edinburgh.

Results expressed in grains.

|                                    |         |      |
|------------------------------------|---------|------|
| Total Solid Matter                 | .. ..   | 5.60 |
| Organic and Volatile Matter        | .. .... | 0.48 |
| Mineral Matter                     | .. ..   | 5.12 |
| Chlorine in Chlorides              | .. ...  | 0.68 |
| Phosphates                         | .....   | None |
| Iron                               | .....   | None |
| Lead or other Poisonous Metals     | .. ..   | None |
| Nitrogen in Nitrates               | .....   | None |
| Nitrites                           | .....   | None |
| Saline Ammonia                     | .....   | .002 |
| Albumenoid Ammonia                 | .....   | .002 |
| Oxygen absorbed at 80°F. in 4 hrs. | .. ..   | .015 |
| Total Hardness (Clark's Scale)     | .. ..   | 5.00 |
| Temporary Hardness (Clark's Scale) | .. ..   | 3.7  |
| pH Value                           | .....   | 7.4  |

This water was clear and contained no sediment. It is of satisfactory chemical purity and is, in my opinion quite free from any indication of contamination.

(Sgd.) A. SCOTT DODD.

#### **Bacteriological Sample from main tap at Fire Station, Paton Street, 23rd December, 1947.**

Bacteriology Dept.,  
University Buildings,  
Edinburgh.

Examination requested:—B. coli content B. count.

Report:—B. count at 37°C. 1 per c.c.  
at 22°C. 2 per c.c.

B. coli absent from 100 c.c.

It was not possible to undertake any of the proposed improvement works during the year, but I understand that the alterations at Knowsdean to increase the available head are to be carried out shortly.

The following lengths of new distributing mains were added to the system during the year.

3 inch bituman lined steel—203 lin. yds.  
4 inch „ „ „ —230 „ „

## DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Burgh is drained by the separate system, surface water sewers discharging into the river at convenient points and soil sewers at the sewage disposal works at Galafoot.

Both systems received periodical attention, being flushed and scraped where necessary. We experienced no trouble beyond that of a minor nature.

The sewage disposal works continued operating under difficulties and the stoppages in view of the condition of some parts of the plant were surprisingly few. The consulting engineer's report is still in course of preparation, but I understand it will be available in a few weeks. Replacement of the gas engines is now a matter of some urgency, as the extension of the low level sewer to Netherdale Industrial Estate will double the quantity of sewage to be pumped.

The average daily flow as recorded at the works was 1,267,822 gallons per day. This was 27,000 gallons per day below the previous year.

A sample of the effluent showed the following results:—

### Effluent from Collecting Well.

Laboratory of City Analyst,  
Edinburgh.

Results expressed in parts per 100,000.

|                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Suspended Solids                   | 2.80     |
| Total Solid Matter                 | 54.86    |
| Organic and Volatile Matter        | 9.60     |
| Mineral Matter                     | 45.26    |
| Chlorine in Chlorides              | 10.51    |
| Phosphates                         | Abundant |
| Iron                               | None     |
| Lead or other poisonous metals     | None     |
| Nitrogen in Nitrates               | None     |
| Nitrites                           | None     |
| Saline Ammonia                     | 1.000    |
| Albumenoid Ammonia                 | .221     |
| Oxygen absorbed at 80°F in 4 hours | 3.936    |
| Total Hardness (Clark's Scale)     | —        |
| Temporary Hardness (Clark's Scale) | —        |
| Biological Oxygen Demand (5 days)  | 7.15     |
| pH Value                           | 7.1      |

(Sgd.) A. SCOTT DODD.

Sewers laid during the year were as follows:—

| <b>Soil Sewers</b> |                | <b>Surface Water Sewers</b> |                |
|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 12 ins. diameter—  | 177 linl. yds. | 9 ins. diameter—            | 100 linl. yds. |
| 9 ins.        „    | —572   „   „   | 6 ins.         —            | 362   „   „    |
| 6 ins.        „    | —362   „   „   |                             |                |

## CLEAN SING.

The system of collecting refuse twice weekly continues in operation and no re-arrangements of collecting days or districts was found necessary.

Tonnages collected were as follows:—

| <b>Domestic Refuse.</b> | <b>Trade Refuse.</b> | <b>Street Sweepings.</b> | <b>Total.</b> |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| 2473 tons.              | 702 tons.            | 173 tons.                | 3,350 tons    |

The destructor in Huddersfield Street operated almost continuously throughout the year. A tender for the re-lining of the cells and main flues was accepted, but in view of the scarcity of firebricks it will not be possible to undertake the work before August of this year. We intend to carry out the minimum repairs necessary to keep the destructor in operation until then.

Cleansing Department vehicles were well maintained. We did not obtain delivery of a new vehicle which was ordered in January, 1947, to replace an old vehicle, and consequently it was necessary to hire transport on numerous occasions. In view of the considerable delay in deliveries and keeping in view the increasing demands on the Department it will be necessary to review our requirements early in 1948.

The beat system of street sweeping remains in operation and is generally satisfactory. Our high standard of street cleanliness was very little impaired by the reduction in hours and alternate Saturday mornings off, granted to the Cleansing Department Staff.

Our efforts to recover salvage were in no way relaxed and while the total yearly collection of 214 tons was 17 tons below the previous year, the value at £1,422 was increased by £172. It is worthy of placing on record that the quantity of waste paper recovered averaged 13 tons 16 cwts. per month, 6 cwts. per month above the national target of 1 ton per 1,000 of population per month.

## HOUSING.

The temporary housing programme was completed in May, 1947.

Construction of permanent houses at Forest Hill continues to be delayed by scarcity of materials or labour, but at the end of the year the first block was nearing completion.

Site preparation at Gala Policies 3rd Development was substantially completed and erection of the fifty Whitson-Fairhurst non-traditional houses commenced in July. Progress on this scheme while considerably better than the 4th Development has not been up to expectations.



The following table shows the position at 31st December, 1947.

|                       | Permanent. |        |        | Temporary. |        |
|-----------------------|------------|--------|--------|------------|--------|
|                       | 2 apt.     | 3 apt. | 4 apt. | 5 apt.     | 3 apt. |
| Erected prior to 1947 | 10         | 253    | 96     | 18         | 36     |
| Erected during 1947   | —          | —      | —      | —          | 21     |
| Under construction    | —          | —      | 112    | 16         | —      |
| Total                 | 10         | 253    | 208    | 34         | 57     |

A new housing survey was commenced during the year in order that an accurate record of housing conditions will be available when required. Three hundred and fifty houses were inspected up to the end of the year.

### NUISANCES AND COMPLAINTS.

Sixty-one nuisances and complaints were dealt with, fifty-nine by written intimation and two verbally.

### OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The skinworks in Wilderhaugh is the only offensive trade in the Burgh. Periodic inspections were carried out and no cause for complaint noted.

### SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

The Burgh Slaughterhouse remains under control of the Ministry of Food. By frequent visits we found that a satisfactory standard of cleanliness was being maintained.

Animals slaughtered were as follows:—

| Cattle. | Sheep. | Pigs. | Calves. |
|---------|--------|-------|---------|
| 1009    | 5112   | 41    | 872     |

### FOOD INSPECTIONS.

Routine inspections at the slaughterhouse resulted in the following condemnations:—

|        |                         |
|--------|-------------------------|
| Meat   | 4 tons 19 cwts. 85 lbs. |
| Offals | 5 tons — 56 lbs.        |

Other foods condemned were as follows:—

|              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Tinned Foods | 4 cwts. 64 lbs.   |
| Other Foods  | 14 cwts. 99½ lbs. |

## **FACTORIES.**

The number of factories now registered in the Burgh is 173, of which 124 are mechanical and 49 are non-mechanical.

During the year all were inspected and our records revised. These inspections disclosed that occupiers of factories had become rather lax in the last few years, and defects were noted in 43 cases. Written notices were sent in 35 instances and verbal intimation given in 8 cases. The faults were mainly dirty or defective sanitary accommodation, and re-visits disclosed improvement in conditions in most cases.

There is still need for more modern sanitary accommodation at a number of the mills, and it is discouraging to learn that building restrictions are delaying re-construction. Progress, though slow, is being made, and since 1945, 12 factories have provided improved sanitary accommodation and plans have been approved in 7 other cases.

## **SHOPS.**

There are now 241 shops registered in the Burgh. All were inspected and 16 notices sent in respect of dirty or defective sanitary accommodation.

## **SCHOOLS.**

The seven schools in the Burgh are invariably found in good order.

## **COMMON LODGING HOUSES.**

There are no common lodging houses in the Burgh.

## **HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.**

The workmen's hostel in Ladhope Vale was visited and found in satisfactory condition.

## **BURIAL GROUNDS.**

The four burial grounds were well kept throughout the year.

The Local Authority are experiencing some difficulty in securing a site for an additional cemetery, and the outcome of the further steps now being taken is awaited.

It is to be regretted that the crematorium project is shelved meantime.

## C. BURGH OF SELKIRK.

### WATER SUPPLY.

The water system continued to function as described in detail in last year's report, except for minor alterations from time to time.

The heavy snow storms and keen frost which marked the first three months of the year severely dislocated the system. The water main to the Bridgeland area was frozen during the whole month of February and the main in Chapel Street on three occasions, each of some days duration, while several others gave trouble from time to time for short periods. The freezing of Ettrick and the Mill Lade caused the turbine at the Pumping Station to be shut down for periods in January and March and for most of the month of February. The deisel engine was used during these times. The ice which gathered above the Cauld and back up river for almost three quarters of a mile had to be blasted when the thaw set in to prevent damage to the Cauld, the Mill Lade sluice gates and to prevent flooding. The thaw revealed the toll which had been taken of service pipes and fittings and some idea may be gathered of the waste when it is known that the consumption for a short period exceeded 100 gallons per head per day. The local plumbers and the Burgh Staff had their hands full and it was well into June before matters returned to something like normal. The only main pipe to suffer was the 3 inch in the Valley, this burst upsetting the supply to part of the town for two days.

After the abnormal leakage caused by the frost was got under control, the campaign commenced last year against wastage was continued with not very conclusive results. Some 284 leaks of all descriptions were dealt with but the resultant increase in pressure as these were eliminated caused further bursts amongst the old, and, in many cases, too light lead piping and by the end of the year very little improvement had resulted. However, it is understood that only by continued application will this problem be solved and as every drop of water used or wasted in Selkirk has to be pumped, it is a serious financial, as well as technical problem.

The purchase and installation of the 6 inch deacon meter on the 6 inch distributing main was a great help in discovering waste. Very little trouble was experienced with the mains apart from the following :—

- (1) Bad slide of shingle in the track of the new main to Philiphaugh caused fracture of 3 inch main.
- (2) Choking of the old, badly corroded 2 inch main in the Glebe.
- (3) Burst on new main to Philiphaugh.

The new main to Philiphaugh Housing Scheme was completed towards the end of the year. A 3 inch main was laid to the new houses in the Tait's Hill area.

The long dry spell during the summer brought the quantity of water in Ettrick to a mere trickle and consequently very little water was available for the Mill Lade and the turbine had to be shut down during August and September, and resort made to the diesel engine. The entrance channel to the sluices at St. Mary's Loch was cleaned and deepened with a view to augmenting the flow in the lade. No anxiety was felt during the drought as to the supply wells which maintained a fairly satisfactory level.

The Mill Lade was cleaned during the Trades Holiday week. More or less continuous running repairs were necessary on the two pumps which were maintained in continuous service. The efficiency of the turbine is dropping rapidly and it is hoped that the new turbine will be forward at an early date.

Messrs Crowley Russell & Co. found themselves still unable to make a start to renewing the defective 12 inch main to the Pumphouse.

Samples taken during the year revealed a very satisfactory standard of purity.

### CLEANSING.

The recommendation in the last report that a twice weekly collection of household refuse be instituted was adopted but with most disappointing results. The refuse loads on the first collection in each week were as heavy as ever while little or nothing was collected in the second round. In November after advertising in the local papers the double collection was given a further four weeks trial, but as there was no response it was agreed the once weekly collection be re-commenced at the beginning of the year.

Every effort was made to try to bring the Refuse Depot into proper condition and towards the end of the year some improvement was apparent. Fire broke out in the old deep face on several occasions, but except for one in January all were dealt with without much trouble. The rat population was successfully kept to a minimum by continuous operations.

The scavengers beats were reorganised and depots for dumping the sweepings were arranged at suitable points. These are cleared twice weekly in the centre of the town and once weekly elsewhere.

A new system of removing trade refuse was introduced after discussions with those using this service and it has proved satisfactory.

Garden refuse was removed every Saturday morning from April to October.

The collection of salvage continued although waste paper was the main item. The quantity of paper collected during the year was 52 tons 18 cwt.

The Public Conveniences were well maintained despite a period in the early months of the year when three of them were found to be badly fouled every morning. Watches were set in which the Police co-operated, but although no culprit was found these eventually brought this filthy practice to an end. The automatic locks were frequently damaged.

## SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

Little or no trouble was experienced with the sewerage system. Slight silting is occurring on the Buccleuch Road—Low Road sewer, but this sewer is flushed regularly each week from the Mill Lade and no action is yet called for.

The disposal system functioned satisfactorily although there is a slight soap content in the effluent. This, it is considered, is due to the nature of the soap substitute being used at present in the tweed mills.

During May large quantities of tar were found in the works, and it was with difficulty that entrance to the pumps and sedimentation tanks was prevented. The tar was traced to the Gas Works but the Gas Company would not admit liability. Discussions were still in progress when in December on two forenoons in succession large quantities were again found at the works. During a visit to the Gas Works inspection was in progress of the ammonia affluve pit from which ammonia is discharged into the sewer, when quantities of tar appeared in the pit and passed into the sewer. The Gas Company then admitted liability and investigations revealed a defect in the plant. Apart from rectifying the defect the Company took strict action to prevent a repetition of the tar discharge even although a further defect should occur. The considerable cost of clearing the tar and cleaning up thereafter was borne by the Company.

Once again reference is made to the poor drainage from the sludge beds and this matter will require early attention as frequently all three beds are full and temporary unsatisfactory measures have to be adopted till one bed is sufficiently dry to permit of removal.

The short-cut to the works through one of the Mills was closed and repairs had to be carried out on the old bridge over the Lade for use of the staff.

Frequent attacks on rats prevented more than an odd one or two being present at the one time.

Continual overflowing of the sewage from a disconnecting trap of a house at the Toll was investigated and it was found that this drain had been connected into the inverted syphon several years ago. Instructions were given to remove the connection and to carry the drain into another pipe.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

This is still being used as a food store by the Ministry of Food.

## NUISANCES.

Few nuisances were found during inspections or were reported, and most were of a minor nature, apart from the dumping on the shingle at the Iron Bridge by the Military, of the contents of latrines and other refuse. Speedy clearance was made on representation to the unit concerned.

Six notices and several written warnings were issued and all had the desired effect.



### **BURIAL GROUNDS.**

The grounds are being conducted in a satisfactory manner. Plans were submitted and approved for improving the layout of one section of Brierlaw Cemetery and the work was well in hand at the end of the year.

### **SCHOOLS.**

All schools are reasonably satisfactory. Attention had to be drawn on several occasions to the waste of water at all schools.

### **OFFENSIVE TRADES.**

There is only one offensive trade—a tannery and everything was found satisfactory. The premises have been greatly extended and modernised.

### **FACTORIES.**

No action was called for. Several Mills have erected new lavatory accommodation and rest rooms for employees.

### **FOOD PREMISES.**

Inspections revealed a satisfactory standard of cleanliness. Discussions were in progress with two bakers with a view to extending and improving their bakeries.

### **DAIRIES.**

There are three premises where milk is bottled and two small cowsheds. All were well kept. Improvements to the bottling premises are necessary and are under consideration.

### **HOUSING.**

Twenty-nine temporary houses were occupied early in the year bringing the total up to the fifty supplied. A commencement was made with the site preparation and erection of eight Cruden Houses in Dovecot Park site. By the end of the year all the houses were virtually ready for occupation and in the site preparation only the tarmac on the roadways, the paths to the houses and the steps to the four front houses remained to be done.

Progress on the advance preparation of Philiphaugh Site was very slow and disappointing a statement which was equally true of the house building operation which commenced in February. As a result there is no early prospect of the housing problem being alleviated. The housing problem is probably no worse in Selkirk than elsewhere, but this is cold comfort to the many families in desperate plight, and to the Public Health Committee responsible for house letting. The Council are bending all their power to this problem and it must be extremely disheartening to see so little progress.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. M. ELLIOTT,  
*County Medical Officer.*



